

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Council Chambers, 805 St. Clair River Drive
Algonac, MI 48001
AS APPROVED 11/17/15

A regular meeting of the Algonac City Council held on Tuesday, November 3, 2015 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Irene Bird. The meeting was held in Council Chambers, 805 St. Clair River Drive, Algonac, MI 48001.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Michael Bembas
Irene Bird, Mayor
Ray Martin
Helen Meldrum
Joe Nugent
Mark Thompson, Mayor Pro-Tem
Gary Tuzinowski

Absent:

Others: City Manager Alexander, City Engineer John Monte, Randall Riecke, Nick Barone, Tom McCausland, Jim and Eileen Tesch, Donna Juntuneau, Brady Harris, Chris Fellows, Michael Harral, City Clerk Greenia

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Mayor Bird called for a moment of silent prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bird led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nick Barone, 1999 Pointe Tremble Drive, Algonac, approached the City Council regarding a water bill that he received. City Council directed him to speak with City Manager Alexander to discuss some type of solution to his concerns.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CO # 11-01-15 Approve City Manager's Report

Motion by Nugent supported by Thompson to approve the City Manager's report of October 30, 2015. Motion carried.

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CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were on the Consent Agenda for the 11/3/15 meeting of the Algonac City Council:

- 1) Consent Agenda
 - a) City Council Minutes
 - 1) Regular Minutes October 20, 2015
 - b) Communications and Notices
 - 1) Legislative Update Senator Pavlov

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

CO # 11-02-15 Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Nugent supported by Martin to approve the Consent Agenda for the 11/3/15 meeting of the Algonac City Council as proposed. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Presentation in Follow Up to Resident Concerns on Channelsyde Bridge Canal

City Engineer Monte reviewed the cost of the three (3) options he priced out for replacing the Channelsyde Bridge. The proposed solutions ranged in cost from \$613,000 to \$1,062,000. The report of the St. Clair County Dive Team inspecting the culverts was reviewed by City Manager Alexander.

Jim Tesch 145 Channelsyde, approached City Council regarding the issue. He indicated that he did appreciate the time and effort the city had given to this problem. After hearing the suggestion he felt that a new culvert bridge was probably the best option to solve this matter. He also added that there was a concern with the fire trucks being able to get across the current bridge. Was there a weight restriction on it? Also, since there was a new water main going in on Channelsyde would there be more fire hydrants on the street?

Brady Harris, 129 Channelsyde shared with City Council his thoughts on the matter. He reviewed that the properties on Channelsyde would be worth much more money if the canal were clean and useable. That would, in turn, provide more tax revenue for the City. He felt that since Algonac was known as the Venice of Michigan, the canals should all be kept clean and free of debris.

Donna Juntuneau asked about the bids and indicated she would like to actually see the report. She wanted to challenge City Council to get a less expensive bid for replacement of the bridge. Mr. Alexander provided her a copy of the report.

City Manager Alexander responded to questions – there would be additional fire hydrants on Channelsyde with the installation of the new water main, they sent out eight RFPs but only received two bids, and there was not a problem with the fire trucks getting across the bridge as it was now.

Discussion was had on the best way to address this matter. City Manager Alexander stated he would contact Mr. Brusette to see when the best time to clean these out would be – what time of year. City Council could put monies into the budget moving forward to clean them out however many times per year that was felt necessary. Donna Junteneau thanked City Council for listening.

Discussion was had on the fact that the residents on Channelsyde would be receptive to paying for a special assessment if a program to control the growth of weeds in the canal could be done.

NEW BUSINESS

CO # 11-03-15 Opt Out of Public Act 152 of 2011

Motion by Nugent supported by Bembas to support the recommendation of the City Manager to exempt the City of Algonac from the requirements of Public Act 152 of 2011 for the next succeeding medical benefit plan coverage. Motion carried.

CO # 11-04-15 Addition of Lathrop Avenue to the Act 51 System (11-03-2015a)

Motion by Tuzinowski supported by Meldrum to adopt Resolution # 11-03-2015a which accepts Lathrop Avenue into the city's Local Street System for purposes of Act 51 Reporting. Motion carried.

CO # 11-05-15 Approval of Snow Removal Bid Municipal Parking Lots

Motion by Thompson supported by Nugent that the recommendation of the City Manager and DPS be approved and that the City contracts with Maple Landscape to perform the duties of removing/snow plowing from City Municipal Parking Lots at a cost of \$103 per occurrence at the Library and \$65 per occurrence for the Water Plant. Motion carried.

CO # 11-06-15 Approval of Snow Removal Bids Sidewalks

Motion by Meldrum supported by Martin that the recommendation of the City Manager and DPS be approved and that the City contracts with Mowing Madness for sidewalk snow removal in the amount of \$25 per 50' of sidewalk and \$40 per 50' removal and salting of sidewalk. Motion carried.

CO # 11-07-15 Approval of Special Events Permit Christmas Tree Sales

Motion by Tuzinowski supported by Meldrum to approve the application for the Special Events Permit made on behalf of the Greater Algonac Chamber of Commerce to allow for the sale of Christmas Trees from Monday, November 23, 2015 thru Thursday, December 24, 2015 as proposed. Motion carried.

CO #11-08-15 Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment

Motion by Thompson supported by Nugent to support the recommendation of the Mayor and City Manager and to appoint Randall Riecke to the Algonac Zoning Board of Appeals with a term end date of February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

CO 11-09-15 Approve and Pay Accounts Payable

Motion by Thompson supported by Bembas to approve and pay accounts payable and payroll in the amount of \$195,065.91. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Water Bill Agreement – Barrone

Report and Recommendation on the Channelsyde Culvert Matter

Council Member Meldrum expressed concern that the entire council wasn't being notified in advance of pending vacancies on boards and commissions. She would like to see the applications of all interested persons brought before the council for review rather than the Council just being asked to approve a recommendation. She requested that a policy or procedure be developed by administration for consideration by the Council at a future meeting.

A lengthy discussion took place including the fact that it is very hard to find residents who are willing to serve.

Administration will research the matter and provide a report at a future meeting.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Pro-Tem Thompson noted concern in the difference between a private bridge contractor and a contractor who may be able to construct the bridge discussed at Channelsyde.

Council Member Martin congratulated the Algonac Muskrat Football Team and wished them good luck.

Council Member Nugent congratulated Morgan Beadlescomb for setting a record in cross country.

Council Member Michael Bembas reminded everyone that November 11, 2015 is Veteran's Day – and we should remember our Veteran's.

Council Member Meldrum thanked City Manager Alexander and City Engineer John Monte for their work on the Channelsyde issue.

Council Member Tuzinowski noted he must be the only real Algonac supporter – he wore his shirt to the meeting tonight! He also congratulated Morgan Beadlescomb on his recent accomplishment.

ADJOURNMENT

CO # 11-10-15 Adjournment

Motion by Thompson supported by Nugent to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion carried.

Signed:

Respectfully Submitted:

Irene Bird, Mayor

Cynthia Greenia, CMC, City Clerk